

Town of Fort Myers Beach  
Agenda Item Summary

Blue Sheet Number: 2011-034

**1. Requested Motion:**

**Meeting Date: Mar 28, 2011**

**Why the action is necessary:**

**What the action accomplishes:**

**2. Agenda:**

☐ Consent  
☒ Administrative

**3. Requirement/Purpose:**

☐ Resolution  
☐ Ordinance  
☒ Other

**4. Submitter of Information:**

☒ Council  
☐ Town Staff  
☐ Town Attorney

**5. Background:**

Town Council expressed a desire to discuss the status of the building known as Seafarer's. Attached is a copy of an e-mail sent to Pete Winton, Assistant County Manager on Friday Mar 18, 2011 and a copy of a letter received at Town Hall from Commissioner Frank Mann.

**6. Alternative Action:**

**7. Management Recommendations:**

**8. Recommended Approval:**

Town Manager	Town Attorney	Finance Director	Public Works Director	Community Development Director	Cultural Resources Director	Town Clerk

**9. Council Action:**

☐ Approved    ☐ Denied    ☐ Deferred    ☐ Other



LEE COUNTY  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TOWN OF  
FORT MYERS BEACH

John E. Manning  
District One

Brian Bigelow  
District Two

Ray Judah  
District Three

Tammy Hall  
District Four

Frank Mann  
District Five

Karen B. Hawes  
County Manager

Diana M. Parker  
County Hearing  
Examiner

MAR 24 2011

March 22, 2011

RECEIVED BY

COPIED TO:  
COUNCIL MEMBERS  
TOWN ATTORNEY  
TOWN MANAGER  
TOWN CLERK

The Honorable Larry Kiker  
Mayor  
Town of Fort Myers Beach  
2523 Estero Boulevard  
Fort Myers Beach, Florida 33931

Dear Mayor:

At our Board meeting today, the county commission unanimously agreed to send this letter to the Town letting you know of the county's intention to demolish the Seafarers building. We believe the building sitting empty is certainly unattractive, and additionally poses a liability risk to the county. As to timeframe, because TDC funds were used to purchase the property, the item will be discussed at the April 8<sup>th</sup> TDC meeting, then will be scheduled for the April 12<sup>th</sup> county commission meeting for final direction.

We welcome the Town's thoughts on this proposed action, and are also willing to consider the council's proposals on possible transfer of this, or other county assets located at the beach, as previously discussed at our recent joint meeting.

But for clarity, I must emphasize the county's willingness to **entertain** proposals. Comments by county officials or staff which may have indicated an intention to indeed proceed with such a transfer have been unfortunately misinterpreted, and would be premature.

I am personally very grateful for the leadership role you are playing at the beach and for the open and candid conversations you and I have shared.

Sincerely,

Frank Mann  
Chairman  
Lee County Board of County Commissioners  
District #5

## Michelle Mayher

---

**From:** Lois Poff on behalf of Terry Stewart  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2011 3:17 PM  
**To:** Michelle Mayher  
**Subject:** FW: Demolition of Seafarer's Building

---

**From:** Terry Stewart  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2011 11:50 AM  
**To:** 'Winton, Peter'  
**Cc:** Hawes, Karen; Karen Maguire (kmaguire@leegov.com); Manzo, Barbara; Alan Mandel; Bob Raymond; Jo List; Joe Kosinski; Larry Kiker; Tom Babcock  
**Subject:** RE: Demolition of Seafarer's Building

Pete,

Thank you for the phone call and the follow up message. I am copying the Mayor and Town Council with this response and your message.

While the Town has asked Lee County to work with us in a review of Town ownership of park properties in the Town, the Seafarer's building is a separate matter. Everyone should recall that the Town expressed a desire to acquire the Seafarer's building site and the BOCC agreed to negotiate toward that objective and County staff was assigned that task. Mayor Larry Kiker and I are the negotiating team for the Town. We are now awaiting a written offering from the County team that will define the County's initial asking price, conditions, etc.

It seems premature for Lee County to suggest moving forward with a demolition while the negotiations are in process, this especially in light of the fact that the Town has expressed a specific desire to keep its options open with regard to the site. I'm sure that as the Town Council's designated point person for the Seafarer's building acquisition, Mayor Kiker will be weighing in on this matter as well.

Best regards,  
Terry

---

**From:** Winton, Peter [mailto:PWinton@leegov.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2011 11:27 AM  
**To:** Larry Kiker  
**Cc:** Terry Stewart; Hawes, Karen  
**Subject:** Demolition of Seafarer's Building

Mayor Kiker,

Commissioner Mann asked that I contact you. I left a fairly detailed message on your phone yesterday but also wanted to follow up with an email.

At the April 8 TDC meeting the county will be requesting that the Seafarer's building be demolished (for liability and aesthetic reasons). Because TDC funds were used to purchase the property, commissioners have indicated that we should run this by the TDC before we take a bluesheet to the Board at its April 12 commission meeting.

At the April 12 commission meeting we will ask for authorization to demolish the building and also seek board direction on how we should proceed with the property (including the things our staffs already have discussed).

Commissioner Mann also requested that I ask you if you have any plans to make a presentation to the TDC on the subject of the county's other regional park properties on the Beach. This was tabled at the last TDC meeting per your request and Commissioner Mann wanted to know if you plan to bring it back in April or would prefer to wait at this point.

Thank you. Pete.

Pete Winton  
Assistant County Manager  
Lee County Administration  
[wintonpx@leegov.com](mailto:wintonpx@leegov.com)  
Phone: (239) 533-2777  
FAX: (239) 485-2262

---

Please note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from County Employees and officials regarding County business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communication may be subject to public disclosure.

Under Florida law, email addresses are public records. If you do not want your email address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.